

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 were pending in the application as the time of the Office Action. The Office Action set forth an election requirement requiring the Applicant to elect one species for prosecution on the merits. By this amendment Applicant has cancelled claims 1-20 and added new claims 21-51. As such, claims 21-51 are presented for the Examiner's consideration on the merits.

A. Amendment to the Claims

Applicant has herein cancelled claims 1-20 and added new claims 21-51. Applicant respectfully submits that new claims 21-51 are supported by Figures 1 and 2 and pages 7 and 8 of the specification as originally filed. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that the new claims do not add new matter and entry thereof is requested.

B. Election Requirement

The Office Action asserted that the application contained claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

- (1) Species 1 shown in Figures 1 and 2
- (2) Species 2 shown in Figure 3; and
- (3) Species 3 shown in Figure 4.

The Office Action required applicant to elect one of the three species and to identify the claims that read thereon. In response to the election requirement, the Applicant hereby elects without traverse Species 1 corresponding to Figures 1 and 2. Applicant also submits that all of new claims 21-51 read on the elected species.

C. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, claims 21-51 are presented for the Examiner's consideration on the merits. Should the Examiner find any impediment to allowance of the claims which could be clarified by the telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to initiate such with the undersigned.

Dated this 2nd day of July 2004.

Respectfully submitted,



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